



THE EUROPEAN WOOD PRESERVATIVE MANUFACTURERS GROUP

STATUTES

Article 1 Name

The name of the Group shall be 'European Wood Preservative Manufacturers Group (EWPM)'. The Group was formed in July 1977 and is referred to as EWPM.

Article 2 Objectives

The aim of the EWPM is to promote, with integrity, the correct use of wood preservatives including production, transportation, utilization and disposal, by all means including but not limited to:

- (i) taking any appropriate measures which are legal and are the decision of the voting members.
- (ii) acting on behalf of members, to promote an agreed position in all technical, scientific, regulatory, health, safety and environmental protection domains which interest the industry, directly or indirectly, with particular regard to Europe.

Article 3 Activities

- (i) The EWPM shall act as an official representative of the industry when approaching authorities, institutions or any other competent body on a European or international level.
- (ii) EWPM members shall exchange views on environmental and consumer protection matters and take such action as agreed necessary.
- (iii) EWPM members shall work towards the improvement of technical guidelines within the industry for the benefit of consumers, specifiers and other stakeholders the EWPM may recognise.
- (iv) EWPM members shall provide information and assist in the preparation of technical standards as required by CEN for the European market.
- (v) To promote the harmonisation of national regulations concerning the manufacture, formulation, packaging, labelling, transportation and storage of wood preservatives.

Article 4 Secretariat and Finance

- (i) The Secretariat of the EWPM shall be at the offices of whomsoever is from time to time appointed by the EWPM.
- (ii) The financial year of the EWPM shall be from 1st May to 30th April the following year.
- (iii) The members of the EWPM shall pay such fees as may be determined by a 2/3 majority of members from time to time.

Article 5 Membership

- (i) European producers or distributors of wood preservatives and/or active ingredients for wood preservation, at an industrial level, may apply for voting membership.

- (ii) European Associations of wood preservative manufacturers and those Associations whose activity is in the field of wood preservation may apply for non-voting membership.

Article 6 Rights and Obligations of Members

- (i) Members should pay subscription invoices promptly; comply with the aims of the Statutes and act in a responsible manner in the interpretation of the objectives of the EWPM.
- (ii) Members are entitled to attend General Assemblies of the EWPM and Voting Members may vote on all resolutions.
- (iii) Members may also seek information or assistance from the other members in connection with the objectives of the EWPM.

Article 7 Application for Membership

- (i) Any application for membership of the EWPM shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of EWPM who shall forward the request without delay to the EWPM Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall recommend to the EWPM whether or not to admit the applicant. The EWPM shall decide on the application within six months of the receipt of the application by the Secretary by vote in General Assembly or, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, by postal or other means of voting.
- (ii) The Secretary shall inform the applicant of the decision taken by the EWPM within one month.

Article 8 Termination of Membership

- (i) A member may resign from the EWPM by giving three month's notice in writing to the Secretary. Subscriptions are due to the end of the notice period. Subscriptions already paid by a member who resigns are not refundable.
- (ii) Any member not abiding by the Statutes, or acting contrary to the aims of the EWPM, may lose their membership. Expulsion of a member must be by resolution of a majority of the General Assembly of at least three quarters of the total number of members. For those members unable to attend, the Secretariat will arrange proxy voting in writing. Subscriptions already paid by an expelled member are not refundable.

Article 9 General Assembly

- (i) The General Assembly consists of all members of the EWPM.
- (ii) The President may, on occasion, invite a non-member to attend an EWPM meeting.
- (iii) In General Assembly when a number of representatives from a member company are present only one nominated representative of that company shall have the right to vote.
- (iv) Voting members of the General Assembly shall:-
 - elect a President;
 - determine policy of the EWPM;
 - elect an Executive Committee and establish other working groups as required;
 - decide on the applications for membership;
 - fix the annual contribution;
 - appoint the Secretariat.
- (v) An ordinary General Assembly shall be held once a year under the Chairmanship of the President or, if he is unable to attend, of the Secretary.
- (vi) The General Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary on behalf of the President, by giving at least four weeks notice in writing.

A member who is prevented from attending may be represented by another member. Proxies must be notified in writing and in due time to the Secretary.

- (vii) A quorum of the General Assembly shall be 50% of the voting membership. If a quorum is not achieved at a General Assembly, voting will take place by other means. In the case of an equality of votes the President of the EWPM shall have the decisive vote. For valid decisions, the majority of the votes of the members present or represented is required.
- (viii) The minutes of the General Assembly are to be kept by the secretary and signed by the Chairman and the Secretary.

Article 10 Extraordinary Meetings of the General Assembly

- (i) The President, or in his absence the Secretary, is obliged to convene an extraordinary meeting if at least three voting members from three different countries request such a meeting.

Article 11 The President

- (i) The President may serve a term of two years and is eligible for re-election.
- (ii) The President is responsible for ensuring the decisions of members are implemented.

Article 12 Executive Committee

- (i) Committee members may serve for a term of 2 years and are eligible for re-election.
- (ii) The Committee shall be composed of the President with at least 3 other voting members and the Secretary. The Committee may co-opt additional members at its discretion, subject to ratification at a General Assembly. At the President's discretion the Committee may conduct its business by any means of communication.
- (iii) A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be 3 voting members and the Secretary.
- (iv) The Executive Committee may establish Working Groups, which must be ratified at the next General Assembly.

Article 13 Dissolution

- (i) A General Assembly may dissolve EWPM by unanimity, but for this purpose the quorum must be at least 75% of the total voting membership. The assets should be used within six months for purposes conforming to the aims of the EWPM.

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